

Calendar No. **670**

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**H. R. 1025**

**[Report No. 110-318]**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2007

Received

MAY 9, 2007

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

APRIL 10, 2008

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, without amendment

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## **AN ACT**

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of implementing a water supply and conservation project to improve water supply reliability, increase the capacity of water storage, and improve water management efficiency in the Republican River Basin between Harlan County Lake in Nebraska and Milford Lake in Kansas.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Lower Republican  
3 River Basin Study Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. REPUBLICAN RIVER BASIN FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

5 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF STUDY.**—Pursuant to rec-  
6 lamation laws, the Secretary of the Interior, acting  
7 through the Bureau of Reclamation and in consultation  
8 and cooperation with the States of Nebraska, Kansas, and  
9 Colorado, may conduct a study to—

10 (1) determine the feasibility of implementing a  
11 water supply and conservation project that will—

12 (A) improve water supply reliability in the  
13 Republican River Basin between Harlan County  
14 Lake in Nebraska and Milford Lake in Kansas,  
15 including areas in the counties of Harlan,  
16 Franklin, Webster, and Nuckolls in Nebraska  
17 and Jewel, Republic, Cloud, Washington, and  
18 Clay in Kansas (in this section referred to as  
19 the “Republican River Basin”);

20 (B) increase the capacity of water storage  
21 through modifications of existing projects or  
22 through new projects that serve areas in the  
23 Republican River Basin; and

24 (C) improve water management efficiency  
25 in the Republican River Basin through con-  
26 servation and other available means and, where

1 appropriate, evaluate integrated water resource  
2 management and supply needs in the Repub-  
3 lican River Basin; and

4 (2) consider appropriate cost-sharing options  
5 for implementation of the project.

6 (b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost  
7 of the study shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost  
8 of the study, and shall be nonreimbursable.

9 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary  
10 shall undertake the study through cooperative agreements  
11 with the State of Kansas or Nebraska and other appro-  
12 priate entities determined by the Secretary.

13 (d) COMPLETION AND REPORT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
15 graph (2), not later than 3 years after the date of  
16 the enactment of this section the Secretary of the  
17 Interior shall complete the study and transmit to the  
18 Congress a report containing the results of the  
19 study.

20 (2) EXTENSION.—If the Secretary determines  
21 that the study cannot be completed within the 3-year  
22 period beginning on the date of the enactment of  
23 this Act, the Secretary—

24 (A) shall, at the time of that determina-  
25 tion, report to the Congress on the status of the

1 study, including an estimate of the date of com-  
2 pletion; and

3 (B) complete the study and transmit to the  
4 Congress a report containing the results of the  
5 study by not later than that date.

6 (e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the  
7 Secretary to carry out any provisions of this Act shall ter-  
8minate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this  
9 Act.



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